

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Klaus DÖLLE

Group Art Unit: 1731

Appln. No. : 10/596,313

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : December 3, 2004

Confirmation No.: 5238

For : METHOD FOR LOADING A FIBROUS SUSPENSION AND
ARRANGEMENT FOR IMPLEMENTING THE METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop _____
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, and pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant hereby calls the following information to the Examiner's attention:

(1) German Patent Publication 101 13 998 issued September 26, 2002. This document is discussed in paragraph [0003] of the instant application, as labeled in the substitute specification.

The following documents were cited in an International Search Report, dated May 10, 2005, conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2004/053263, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited:

(2) International Application WO/2004/065690 A, published August 5, 2004 cited as an "X, P" category document (i.e., particular relevance, document published prior to the international filing date, but later than the priority date claimed). The Examiner identified claims

1 – 34 as relevant to claims 1 – 4, 10 – 12, 14 – 19 and 22 of the International Patent Application;

(3) International Application WO 03/038184 A, published May 8, 2003 cited as an “X” category document (i.e., particular relevance). The Examiner identified page 7, line 13 – page 10 line 28 and figures 2 – 7 and 11 – 21 as relevant to claims 1 – 3, 10 – 13, 15, 16, 18 and 19 of the International Patent Application. Moreover, for the Examiner’s convenience, Applicant identifies U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/045288 A1, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited International Application;

(4) European Patent Application No. 1,136,617 A, published September 26, 2001 cited as an “X” category document (i.e., particular relevance). The Examiner identified the entire document as relevant to claims 1 – 4, 10 – 12, 14, 16, 18 and 19 of the International Patent Application. Moreover, for the Examiner’s convenience, Applicant identifies U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/088566 A1, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited European Patent Application;

(5) European Patent Application No. 0 791 685 A, published August 27, 1997 cited as an “X” category document (i.e., particular relevance). The Examiner identified page 3, line 45 – page 6, line 2, claims 1 – 4 and 9, figures 1, 3a – 3c and example 1 as relevant to claims 1 – 4, 10 – 12, 15, 16, 18 and 19 of the International Patent Application. Moreover, for the Examiner’s convenience, Applicant identifies U.S. Patent No. 6,436,232 B1, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited European Patent Application;

(6) U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2002/090332 A1, published July 11, 2002 cited as an "X" category document (i.e., particular relevance). The Examiner identified the entire document as relevant to claims 1 – 4, 10 – 12, 16, 18 and 19; and

(7) U.S. Patent No. 5,223,090 A, published June 29, 1993 cited as an "X" category document (i.e., particular relevance). The Examiner identified column 4, line 10 – column 10, line 33 as relevant to claims 1 – 5, 10 – 13 and 16 – 19. Moreover, for the Examiner's convenience, Applicant identifies U.S. Patent No. RE 35,460 E, which is identified by the Annex to the Search Report as a U.S. patent family member of the above-cited U.S. Patent.

The following documents were cited in an International Preliminary Examination Report, dated May 10, 2005, conducted in International Patent Application No. PCT/EP2004/053263, which is a counterpart of the above-captioned application. In particular, the Examiner cited:

- (8) International Application WO 03/038184 A, which corresponds to item (3) above;
- (9) European Patent Application No. 1,136,617 A, which corresponds to item (4) above;
- (10) European Patent Application No. 0 791 685 A, which corresponds to item (5) above;
- (11) U.S. Patent Publication No. US 2002/090332 A1, which corresponds to item (6) above; and
- (12) U.S. Patent No. 5,223,090 A, which corresponds to item (7) above.

The above-cited documents are listed on the enclosed completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider the document and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

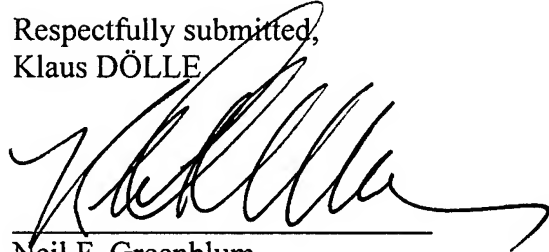
Copies of the cited non-U.S. patent documents are being submitted herewith. Additionally, a copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report and a partial English-language translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report are being submitted herewith. Moreover, a copy of the International Search Report has previously been submitted and is not being submitted herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant notes that while this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date, Applicant has not received a first action on the merits from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed document is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

However, if the first action on the merits has been mailed prior to the filing date of this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees necessary to ensure consideration of the documents cited herein to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should there be any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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